IN THE CLAIMS:

In accord with Rule § 1.121, a complete claim listing is presented below. A status identifier (Original), (Currently Amended), (Previously Presented), or (New) precedes each claim. The changes in amended claims are shown by strikethrough for deleted material, and by underlining for added material.

1. (Currently Amended) An electrochemical sensor strip, comprising:

a base;

a first electrode on the base;

a first reagent layer on the first electrode, the first reagent layer comprising an electroactive organic molecule and an oxidoreductase capable of facilitating a redox reaction of an analyte;

a second electrode on the base; and

a second reagent layer on the second electrode, the second reagent layer ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a redox pair comprising a first soluble redox species and a second soluble redox species, ~~a first soluble redox species~~the redox pair selected from the group consisting of an organotransition metal complex, a transition metal coordination complex, and mixtures thereof, where

the first soluble redox species is capable of undergoing a redox reaction opposite that of the analyte, and where

~~the second reagent layer further comprises a second soluble redox species, the second soluble redox species is a species of a redox pair comprising the first soluble redox species and the second soluble redox species, and where~~

the molar ratio of the first soluble redox species to the second soluble redox species is greater than 1.2:1 prior to use of the sensor strip in an analysis.

2. (Cancelled).

3-6. (Cancelled).

7. (Previously Presented) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 1, where the molar ratio of the first soluble redox species to the second redox species is greater than 2:1.

8-13. (Cancelled).

14. (Original) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 1, where the first soluble redox species comprises ruthenium(II) hexaamine or ruthenium(III) hexaamine.

15. (Original) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 1, where the electroactive organic molecule is selected from the group consisting of coenzyme pyrroloquinoline quinone (PQQ), substituted benzoquinones, substituted naphthoquinones, N-oxides, nitroso compounds, hydroxylamines, oxines, flavins, phenazines, phenothiazines, indophenols, indamines, phenazinium salts, phenoxazinium salts, 3-phenylimino-3H-phenothiazines, 3-phenylimino-3H-phenoxazines, and mixtures thereof.

16. (Original) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 1, where the electroactive organic molecule comprises a 3-phenylimino-3H-phenothiazine.

17. (Original) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 1, where the electroactive organic molecule comprises a 3-phenylimino-3H-phenoxazine.

18-25. (Cancelled).

26. (Original) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 1, further comprising a third electrode on the base and a third reagent layer on the third electrode, the third reagent layer comprising a third soluble redox species.

27-29. (Cancelled).

30. (Currently Amended) An electrochemical sensor strip, comprising:

a base;

a first electrode on the base;

a first reagent layer on the first electrode, the first reagent layer comprising an electroactive organic molecule and an enzyme selected from the group consisting of glucose oxidase, glucose dehydrogenase, and mixtures thereof;

a second electrode on the base; and

a second reagent layer on the second electrode, the second reagent layer ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a redox pair comprising a first soluble redox species and a second soluble redox species, ~~first soluble redox species~~ the redox pair selected from the group consisting of an organotransition metal complex, a transition metal coordination complex, and mixtures thereof ~~and a second soluble redox species~~, and where

~~the first and the second soluble redox species are a redox pair, and where~~

the first soluble redox species is a reducible species, the second soluble redox species is an oxidizable species, and the molar ratio of the first soluble redox species to the second soluble redox species is greater than 1.2:1 prior to use of the sensor strip in an analysis.

31. (Cancelled).

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Original) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 30, where the electroactive organic molecule is selected from the group consisting of 3-phenylimino-3H- phenothiazines, 3-phenylimino-3H-phenoxazines, and mixtures thereof.

34-44. (Cancelled).

45. (Previously Presented) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 30, further comprising a lid mated to the base such that the lid is over the first and second electrodes and the first and second reagent layers.

46-60. (Cancelled).

61. (Currently Amended) A method of quantifying an analyte in a sample, comprising:

contacting the sample with an electrochemical sensor strip;

the electrochemical sensor strip comprising a first electrode and a first reagent layer on the first electrode, the first reagent layer comprising an electroactive organic molecule and an oxidoreductase capable of facilitating a redox reaction of the analyte;

the electrochemical sensor strip also comprising a second electrode and a second reagent layer on the second electrode, the second reagent layer ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a redox pair comprising a first soluble redox species and a second soluble redox species, ~~soluble redox species~~ the redox pair selected from the group consisting of an organotransition metal complex, a transition metal coordination complex, and mixtures thereof~~;~~, where the first soluble redox species is capable of undergoing a redox reaction opposite that of the analyte;

applying an electrical potential between the first and second electrodes;

measuring a current passing through the first and second electrodes and the sample; and

correlating the current to a concentration of the analyte, where the correlation between the current and the concentration of the analyte is substantially linear from zero to an analyte concentration of about 400 mg/dL.

62-64. (Cancelled).

65. (Original) The method of claim 61, where the oxidoreductase comprises an enzyme selected from the group consisting of an oxidase and a dehydrogenase; and where the soluble redox species is a reducible species.

66-67. (Cancelled).

68. (Original) The method of claim 61, where the analyte comprises glucose, and the oxidoreductase comprises glucose oxidase or glucose dehydrogenase.

69-73. (Cancelled).

74. (Previously Presented) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 1, where the molar ratio of the first soluble redox species to the second redox species is greater than 10:1.

75. (Previously Presented) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 1, where the second redox species is present in an amount less than 1 part per thousand.

76. (Previously Presented) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 1, where the first soluble redox species has a standard reduction potential of at least +0.24 volts.

77. (Previously Presented) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 1, where the first soluble redox species has a standard reduction potential of at least +0.35 volts.

78. (Previously Presented) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 26, where the third soluble redox species is substantially identical to the first soluble redox species.

79. (Previously Presented) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 2, where the electroactive organic molecule and the oxidoreductase are substantially present only in the first reagent layer, and the soluble redox species is substantially present only in the second reagent layer.

80. (Previously Presented) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 31, where the electroactive organic molecule and the enzyme are substantially present only in the first reagent layer, and the first soluble redox species is substantially present only in the second reagent layer.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 61, where the electrochemical sensor strip further comprises a third electrode comprising the soluble redox species.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 81, further comprising measuring a second electrical potential between the third electrode and the first electrode, and adjusting the electrical potential between the first and second electrodes in response to the second electrical potential.

83. (Cancelled).

84. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~83~~61, where the electroactive organic molecule and the oxidoreductase are substantially present only in the first reagent layer, and the first and second soluble redox species ~~is~~ are substantially present only in the second reagent layer.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 61, where the correlation between the current and the concentration of the analyte is substantially linear from zero to an analyte concentration of about 600 mg/dL.

86. (New) The method of claim 1, where the second soluble redox species is capable of undergoing a redox reaction opposite to that of the first soluble redox species.

87. (New) The method of claim 30, where the second soluble redox species is capable of undergoing a redox reaction opposite to that of the first soluble redox species.

88. (New) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 1, where the first and second soluble redox species are substantially present only in the second reagent layer.

89. (New) The electrochemical sensor strip of claim 30, where the first and second soluble redox species are substantially present only in the second reagent layer.